# The Mirror

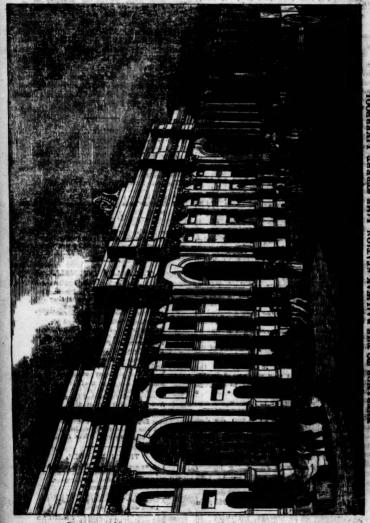
LITERATURE, AMUSEMENT, AND INSTRUCTION.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1838.

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Vol. XXXII.

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ENTRANCE TO THE RAILWAY STA-TION, LIME-STREET, LIVERPOOL.\*

WE here present to our readers a correct View of the Grand Entrance to the Railway Station at Liverpool. This truly noble structure forms one of the most prominent buildings in that celebrated city. It would be unnecessary to dilate either on its archi-tectural beauties or its grandeur of effect: they being so apparent, and so universally acknowledged, that any description of them

would be superfluous.

The Manchester and Liverpool Railway was originally estimated at £500,000, or about £23,000 per mile, but that was very considerably increased, and its ultimate amount turned out to be about £900,000, or £30,000 per mile. This certainly was an immense increase upon the original state-ment, but surprise cannot be entertained at the excess if the difficulty of making the way be taken into account. But if the expense was great, the benefits which accrued from its outlay were felt to be fully commensurate. The number of coaches passing daily between the two places was twenty-two prior to the establishment of the railway, with six extra in summer, and the number of passengers on the average 450, being a weight respectively of passengers and luggage of about 178 lb. Within the first seven months the number of passengers carried by the railway was nearly 255,000, and within the first two and twenty months after its opening—a period which allows us to strike as fair an average as can be computed -the number was nearly 670,000, or about 1,200 a-day. The time previously occupied in a journey from one place to the other was about five hours, and the fare about seven or eight shillings; after the railway got to work, the fare by the first-class carriages was five shillings, and the time occupied in travelling was reduced to an hour and a half; and by the second-class carriages it was no more than two hours, at a fare of three shil-ings and sixpence each. The repairs of the engines were stated by the directors to be an expense of more than £18,000, and the maintenance of the way was stated in the report of the 30th of June, 1834, to be £623

per mile.
"The whole number of passengers conveyed upon the railway does not quite average what we have just stated, 1,200 per day. From the opening of the line on the 15th of September, 1830, to the end of June, 1836, the gross total was 2,393,767, making an average of 1,132 persons every day. Several circumstances arose to render the number during the several years somewhat variable, but upon the whole the increase has been

regularly progressive.
"In 1832, the number was 356,945; in Por various interesting particulars relative to

1833-386,492; in 1834-436,637; in 1835 473,847; and in 1836, January to June-222,848, being an excess during the last six months of 17,000 over the first six months of

the preceding year.

"The net income expected was £62,500, while the net receipts amounted to £83,619. The sum of £510,000 was considered sufficient to complete the work, but the actual cost was nearly £1,200,000. The expenses were estimated at 33 per cent, but have been found to amount to 62 per cent, but have been found to amount to 62 per cent, on the grows receipts. Yet, notwithstanding these miscalculations, such has been the increase of traffic in consequence of the increased accommodation, that the net revenue, after paying all charges and expenses, is rather more than 10 per cent. on the shares."—Gilbert's Railways of England and Wales.

#### SONNET.

A sronm was passing o'er the troubled world:
To the hourse wind the thunder wildly spoke;
The elements in majesty their power awoke,
And over earth the clouds in terror curl'd;
From mountains grey huge fragment-rocks were
hurd's

The ocean from its ancient limits broke, Creation seem'd destruction to invoke, ad ruin's banner was aloft unfurl'd.

Methought 'twas passing strange that this fair

earth
Should die by suicide so vast and dire:
Should die by suicide so vast and dire:
But a calm voice was heard, which did conspire
To awe, whilst thus it spake:—" Nature gives birth
To storms: but, mortal, it is not in valu—
The elements their poi-on lose that peace may reigu!"
E. J. HYTCH.

#### THE POLE'S FAREWELL. (For the Mirror.)

FAREWELL to Poland! far I roam, Far from my kindred hope and ties: And other lands to call my home, And learn to smile 'neath other skies, And though 'mid cities rich and fair, With art and Nature's fairy hand; Can I forget when I am there, Thee, my native Polish land? And shall thy name no echo find, When years have turned these hairs to grey, And shall those ties forget to bind, That linked me in my youthful day? And can I e'er forget the fight, When Poland's sons their tymnts met, Where shrunk the coward Muscovite, And trembled at our bayonet? And though thy sleep be deep and dire, And foes are trampling over thee; Yet who shall dare thy waking fire? What forged chains can bind the free? D.

#### TIME'S CHANGES.

YEE, we are changed !— There is not one
Throughout the earth, from whom
Some lovely treasure hath not gone,
Of beauty or of bloom
And every year, and every day,
A something bright will pass away,
Until we reach the tomb!
But there shall fade cach earthly stain,
And we shall all be pure again. and having

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## THE PHŒNIX AND GREAT DRAGON.

Though much has been said, and more written, upon the Phænix of classical antiquity, yet none who have enlarged upon the subject have had any ocular proof of the same, or have presumed to confirm it upon sight. Even those authors, moreover, who first wrote con-cerning this miraculous creature, deliver themselves very doubtfully respecting it; and Herodotus, who first introduced the story into Greece from the land of Egypt, tells us in plain, unequivocal expressions, that he himself never saw it, except through the medium of pictorial representation. One and all, however, agree in the broad statement of the circumstances that there exists but one such in the whole world, which, at the end of many hundred years, builds itself a funeral pyre, and commits itself to the flames; from its ashes springs up another and a brighter bird, " cleaving with bolder plume the sapphire skies." Variously indeed has this subject been handled by different writers who have discoursed upon it, according to the bent of their peculiar tastes and fancies, and the pre-disposition of their minds. In this way the poet has treated it poetically; the orator and the preacher, rhetorically; some enigmatically, and others hieroglyphically. The general belief prevalent among the Romans on this point is easily to be gathered from the oft-quoted lines of Ovid, and the equally notable verses of Claudian. Nor have the poets of our own days been unmindful to introduce this gorgeous figure into their rich compositions. With the rhetorician and holy men it has long been a fine and favourite emblem of the resurrection; yet in this they have too quickly conceded, and not contro werted, by assuming the question of its exist-ence, and have taken for granted all the cir-cumstances of the story. Those who have spoken of it hieroglyphically, as did the Egyp-tians, consider it as the chosen hieroglyphic of the sun; and this was, indeed, the most probable ground of the whole relation; and, in corrobotation of which, Tacitus affirms that the Phonix was first beheld in the reign of Sesostris, at Heliopolis, the city of the sun itself. To this simple and primitive idea of its being the hieroglyph of the sun succeeding ages, no doubt, added many fabulons accounts, which, concentrating themselves in time, at length composed that wonderful sin-gularity which both the tongue and pen of every writer has proclaimed and published. But pause we here for a moment, and consider the aptness of the similitude between the sun and this fabulous creature. Like an immense and celestial Phoenix the sun appeared at the period of his setting, and surrounded as he was by a multitudinous gathering of golden, vermilion, and purple clouds; might these not emphatically represent his burning pyre? and when darkness at length came, and the apparent extinguishment of that orb of fire, seemed it not as if the fire had gone out, leaving behind it only burnt and cinerary remains? Shortly afterwards, from this darkness and blackened ashes of the burning, springs up in glorious revivification a new sum—a young and radient Phœnix. with mightier vigour in his filmless eye.

This solution of the fable is most generally

This solution of the fable is most generally allowed to be the correct, and the most worthy

of acceptation.

But if such a remarkable creature was by the old fabulists allotted to the air, an animal of no less marvellousness and celebrity was assigned by them to earth; and we need but mention the name of the Dragon to excite in every mind an idea extraordinary and supernatural. At the mention of this name, the memory recalls with promptitude all that it has read, all that it has heard said of this famous monster; and the imagination inflames itself by the remembrance of the grand images which it has furnished to the pages of the poet. Nor are the ancients the only people who have spoken of the Dragon; the moderns have discoursed of it full as amply. It was a being which became conse-crated by the religion of the first people; it became the object of their mythology, and the minister of the will of their gods. Who was considered, in those times, a better guardian of golden treasure? Who better served for love or hatred? Many, too, and mighty, were the accounts rendered of its prowess and desperate combatings; and it submitted only to the power of enchanters, or the conquering demi gods of ancient times. At a later date it became the principal ornament of pious fables; it held a place among our apocryphal books; and thence it became emblematical of the dazzling actions of valiant knights, who quartered it upon their escutcheons, and has, in truth, vivided modern poetry as much as it animated the ancient. This fabulous being, which has existed so long already, is likely to live for ever. It will long embellish the strong images of an enchanting poesy, and the recital of its mar-vellous power will always charm the leisures of those who want sometimes to be transported into the midst of chimeras, and who desire to see truth clothed in the ornaments of an agreeable fiction. W. ARCHER. of an agreeable fiction.

## BUONAPARTIANA.

SHORTLY after the disasters of the campaign of Russia, Napoleon was informed that his mother had concealed, behind a certain picture, a sum in paper money and other currency, to the amount of five millions of crowns. One day that she made her appearto a place, know 366by ance at the Tuileries, her son said to her, " My mother, I know you to be in possessi of a considerable sum of money, you would oblige me by lending it me."—"Sire, how you have been deceived; I really assure your Majesty that I have but just enough to meet my ordinary expenses."—"It is a service that I expected from you."—"I repeat to your Majesty, I have no money; what I had, I have made over to one of our relatives (Lucian)."—"Well, my mother, I believe you." The conversation then turned on some other topic.

Buonaparte, however, understood his game; and two days after called on his mother incognito, inviting himself to dinner. The meal being over, he pretended to examine the pictures with great interest, and at length stopt short before the one which concealed the hiding-place, saying, "I would thank you for that picture, mother."—"Certainly, you for that picture, moner. — 'triamy, my son, I will have it sent to the Tuileries."

"No, thank you, I would rather take it myself." Saying which, he forthwith rang the bell, and ordered the picture to be taken down. Madame Mère did all in her power to dissuade him, but the Emperor enjoined immediate obedience. The picture was no sooner removed than the hiding-place became visible; Napoleon examined it, and ordered the whole of its contents to be put into his carriage. He then took his leave, without saying anything to his mother, whom grief and mortification deprived of speech.

The second representation of the tra-gedy of Omasis took place at St. Cloud, on the 14th September, 1806, and had created a great sensation; Josephine's tears had awa-kened a corresponding average in the kened a corresponding sympathy in the most callous heart. After the representation, Na-poleon desired to see the author, De Lor-mian, but all endeavours to find him proved unavailing, for he had remained in Paris.
On the 16th, however, he was sent for by the took place.

Good morning, Mr. le Barde," said Napo leon, by this title alluding to the poetry De Lormian had written in imitation of Ossian, duan 13 "So you write dramatic works now? your play acted yesterday, and I sent for you; why were you not present at the represen-tation?"

"Sire, I was not invited."

sH

men,

This short answer did not seem to displease the Emperor, who went on, "I saw your tragedy, which is not one; a useless love, a ridiculous conspiracy, no knowledge of places.

... Have you ever been in Egypt?"

"No, Sire."

"So it seems; and who gave you instruc-tions respecting the costumes?"
"Talma, Sire."

"Talma has made a mistake then; in-

stead of the collar, the bracelets, and the Egyptian robe which Joseph ought to have worn, he appeared as a Nero. Your Rham-nes is a failure; a conspiracy should be well conducted or left alone, even on the stage; the blue shawl of Madlle. Mars becomes her well; as she never figures but in Comedy,

why did you give her your Benjamin?"
"I thought, Sire, that I saw in her the

qualities that part requires."
"You are right. Your Simeon ought to have been a chief of the desert, you make him something amphibious — you should have brought him together with the brother he sold—it would have been difficult, I know, but that is your business. Your Jacob is always whining, and Joseph is insignificant."

always whining, and Joseph is insignificant."
All these sentences, jumbled together à la
Napoleon, began to be rather annoying to
the poor poet. The Emperor, however, suddenly assumed a more gracious look, and
said, "Come, I have done joking; your tragedy is not one that is incontestable; but there are great beauties in it; the scene with Benjamin, the end of the fourth act, and especially the fifth, are superb; the style is admirable, it is like the music of Cimorosa. It is capital; but you must go on. Are you comfortable?"

" No, Sire."

"You poets never have a farthing."
"Your Majesty will, perhaps, not object to give the proverb the lie.

Napoleon here smiled, and continued, " Labrun and I shall not forget you. Your Ossian is admirable; I know the song of Arthur by heart. The work has sold well; get up a splendid edition—I will subscribe."

Napoleon then rose from table, for it was during breakfast this conversation was held, and motioning to De Lormian to follow him, he led him to a bow-window, and said, "When you write anything new, come and read it to me; I am very foud of tragedy; you shall have a pension of two thousand crowns; afterwards, I may do more, it depends upon you.-Adieu."

The day following this audience, De Lormian received from the Emperor a gold snuff-box, with his cipher, containing eight thousand france in notes

The Emperor had just returned from the army, once more crowned with laurels. Titles, decorations, promotions and favours were

showering down in all directions.

Marshal Lefebvre was one of those, who, it is said, received the fairest share of the cake of imperial favours. A very few days after the taking of Dantzic, the Emperor sent for him at seven o'clock in the morning. Lefebvre repaired immediately to head quarters, and announced his arrival. Napoleon was then engaged with Prince Berthier; "Ah!" said the Emperor, "it is with pleasure that I see the Duke has not been long making his

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toilet;" and then turning to an officer in attendance, said, " Go and tell the Duke that I only called him so early that I might have the pleasure of his company at breakfast."
"Sire," replied the officer, "the gentleman

just arrived is a Marshal, not a Duke."

" Sir." observed the Emperor, "when I

make a duke, do you take him for a comte ?"

The officer, puzzled by this play upon the word comte (count,) was at a loss how to act. The Emperor, perceiving his embarrassment, added, smiling, "Go, sir, and tell the Duke of Dantzic that we shall sit down to breakfast

in ten minutes."

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The marshal having been introduced, breakfasted with the Emperor—the meal was not a long one, as may be supposed. On rising from table, Napoleon drew from a kind of cabinet on the mantelpiece, a small parcel, of an oblong shape, handing which to the marshal, he said, "Duke of Dantzic, 1 know how fond you are of chocolate; here is some excellent; little presents promote friendship;" saying this, he shook him by the hand, and adding, "Au revoir, Duke of Dantzig;" so dismissed him.

Having reached his quarters, the marshal, who could not understand what this title of

duke, so often applied to him, meant, nor what this little present could signify, sus-pected that there was some little surprise in reserve for him; having opened it, he found, besides the document which invested him in his new honours, three hundred thousand francs in notes. Not the slightest appear-ance of chocolate, however, save the shape given to the parcel. yd suditi

PENCILLINGS IN NEW ZEALAND.

(From Polack's New Zealand.)

Horrible Catastrophe of some Sealers at New Zealand.

In 1821, a vessel called the "General Gates," left Boston, in the United States of America, on a sealing voyage. On the 10th of August following, five men, and a leader, rangust tollowing, five men, and a leader, named Price, were landed near the southwest cape of the district of Te Wai Poenamu, for the purpose of catching seals. Within six weeks, the success of the men amounted to 3,563 skins, which had been salted and made ready for shipment. One night, about eleven o'clock, their cabin was approximately as headed of asting who hadde surrounded by a horde of natives, who broke open the place, and made the Americans prisoners. The flour, salt provisions, and salt for curing skins, were all destroyed, as their use and value was unknown to the savages. After setting fire to the cabin, and

This pau, I am sorry to say, does not fall within the list of the "translatables." Any one, however, partially acquainted with the French, will apprehend it. I tade.

everything else that was thought unservice able, they forced the sealers to march with them, for some days, to a place known by the name of Looking-Glass Bay, from a remarkable perforation in a rock, a distance of one hundred and fifty miles from whence they set out. The only food they had was roasted fish. After resting a day at this place, they were made to travel a further distance of two hundred miles, in a northerly direction, until they came to a large randy bay. The natives then took John Rawton, and, having fastened him to a tree, they beat in his skull with a club. The head of the unfortunate man was cut off, and buried in the ground; the remaining part of the body was cooked and eaten. Some of this nauseous food was offered to the sealers. who had been without sustenance for some time, and they also partook of the cooked body of their late comrade. The five survivors were made fast to trees, well guarded by hostile natives, and each day one of the men was killed by the ferocious cannibals, and afterwards devoured; viz. James White and William Rawson, of New London, in Connecticut, and Wm. Smith, of New York. James West, of the same place, was doomed to die also; but the night previously a dreadful storm, accompanied by thunder and lightning, frightened the natives away, and the two remaining Americans found means to unfasten the flax cords that bound them. At day-break, next morning, they launched a small canoe that was within reach, and put to sea, without any provisions or water, prefering death in this way to the horrid late of their comrades. They had scarcely proceeded a few yards when a number of natives came in sight, who rushed into the water to catch their prey; but the Americans eventually eluded their grasp, despair lending them strength to paddle beyond their reach. They remained in this exhausted state three days, and were then taken up by the "Masgery," a flax trader and sealer of Sydney.

Curious Instance of Naturalisation.

In 1823, a young Englishman, named James Caddell, visited Sydney, after residing nearly twenty years among the natives on the south-west coast of New Zeeland. He stated that, in 1806, or thereabouts, a sealing ship, called the "Sydney Core," left Port Jackson for the sealing ground on the coast of this country. On the ship arriving there, a boat landed Caddell, who was then a lad of thirteen years, and a crew of men, in pursuit of skins, in the vicinity of the South Cape. All the men were immediately murdered and eaten; and such would have been Caddell's fate, had he not ran up to a chief, named Tako, who happened, accidentally, to be tapued at the time, and, catching hold of his garment, was saved in consequence; his life was further granted him. After remaining some few years with the people, he married the daughter of the principal chief, and was himself raised to that dignity, and tattooed in the face. He visited Sydney, as above stated, in the colonial schooner, "Snapper," accompanied by his wife; and afterwards returned, with renewed pleasure, to the prearrious life of savage hordes. He had nearly forgotten the English language, and had often accompanied the nutives in their wars.

# French and American Expeditions.

At the present moment (1838,) an expedition, under the immediate sanction of Louis-Philippe, King of the French, whose patronage has ever been readily extended in the cause of scientific research, is surveying the coast of New Zealand. In the prospectus of the details of this voyage, this portion of the intended labours of the expedition forms a primary object. Naturalists of distinguished talent accompany the vessels, who are invariably attached to discovery-

ships in the French service.

Another expedition, on a scale of magnificence hitherto unattempted by the purent nations of Europe, has just sailed (1838), under the auspices of the government of the United States, consisting of the "Macconium," 44-gun frigate, a large ship, a brig, one crack schooner, with an eight-horse steam-engine, to fit into the cutter of the frigate, to ply up the various rivers whose powerful efflux or lofty headlands often cause buffling winds at the most needful moments, or sand-bars, whose shallowness admit not of larger craft. This expedition is principally to survey places already known, and to explore such regions as have been only; hastily sotieed, hitherto by discoverers. The prosecution of discoveries towards the South Pole is also intended.

This peaceable armament is under the command of Commodore Catesby-ap-Jones. To an American, this name is a sufficient guarantee for the efficient performance of the many ardonus duties that have devolved on this well-tried officer: to an Englishmun, who will be less acquainted with the name, from a continual accession of candidates, in both the navel and military services of his country, who are daily fast filling the vacancies in the immortal roll of fame, it is, perhaps, sufficient to state, that this gentleman has already protected the interests of British individuals in the islands of the Pacific Ocean, against the aggressions of

even his own countrymen.

Several men of known scientific abilities, natives of the States, professors in various branches of science and natural history, are also employed; so that our transatlantic brethren are determined to show, that, as early as the fledged eagle can expand her

wings, she will leave her eyrie, animated with the same inquiring spirit of her lion-like relative.

The dollar and cent policy of the govern-ment, as Brother Jonathan has thought proper to designate his own pecuniary conduct hitherto, has been entirely repudiated in the fitting out of the present expedition; as, up to December last, the expenses incurred amounted to near 700,000 dollars, or 140,000/. sterling. The survey of the country of New Zealand, interior as well as exterior, forms a prominent feature in the labours of this expedition. The mineralogy of the country will be particularly attended to. Reynolds, the able historian of the voyage of the " Potomac" to Qualla Battoo, on the coast of Sumatra, has the same appointment in this expedition, to whose unwearied exertions, for the last ten years, the world is greatly indebted. Professor Silliman, whose name (lucus a non lucendo) is a sufficient testimony, has enriched the scientific corps with his invaluable advice.

## Filial Affection.

One of the females who had accompanied us met with her father, whom she no sooner beheld, not having expected to see him in this village, than she fell upon his neck, and embraced him with such marks of fifial piety and tenderness, as prevented me from being an unmoved spectator. The parent, who was quite gray, and bowed down with old age, applied his nose to hers, large tear-drops rolling in quick succession down his aged face, which the duteous daughter wiped away with her mat, that was soon saturated with their united tears.

Curious Similarity between New Zealand and London sixty years since.

I was introduced to that part of the enclosure, where the heads of the enemy that had been captured during the week were placed on poles, in front of the house of the chief. I counted nine: there were three more placed on poles in front of the entrance-gate to this part of the village, behind which was the cemetery. The latter had been in that situation for a month previous. They brought to recollection the refined taste that prompted a more civilized people to decorate the gates of the metropolis, the emporium of the fine arts, with ornaments of a similar nature, some "sixty years since;" the discontinuance of which has been destructive to an itinerant profession; for we are told by Walpole, in his "Private Correspondence," that at a certain date he went to the Tower of London, and passed under the new heads at Temple Bar, where he saw people making a trade by letting spy-glasses at a "halfpenny a look."

Singular Cause of War.

I inquired of the chief the cause of the

present war in which he was engaged. He replied, that the enemy had set fire to some land, for the purpose of burning off the brush and fern, preparatory to planting, as is inva-riably the custom of the people; that, unfor-tunately, a change of wind took place, which caused the fire to turn in a contrary direction, whereby a wai-tapu had been destroyed, and everything within had fallen a prey to the flames. It was admitted that the fire was purely accidental, but the laws of the New Zealanders must be enforced; and, continued the chief, pointing to the decapitated heads, "yonder is part-payment."

## Treachery and partial Retribution.

An alliance had been formed between the Nápui chiefs, under E'Ongi, of the Bay of Islands, their friends of the North Cape, and Hokiauga. These tribes then proceeded against the people of Kiapárá, who acted on the defensive, and kept within their foron the pa by the former, but proved un-successful. tifications. Repeated assaults were made

This stronghold was invincible to the northern natives, whose repeated attacks proved fruitless. They despatched a karéré, proved fruitless. They despatched a karéré, or messenger, to request a cessation of hostilities; and, after much native diplomacy, it was ultimately agreed that a principal chief of the Hokianga tribe should wed the daughter of the principal chief of the Kaipara

people.

A mutual exchange of visits followed, the fortifications were thrown open by the before fortifications were found to the people. sieged to their late invaders, feasts were given, and all the tribes on either side were apparently delighted at the discontinuance of hostilities.

The bride was wooed, won, and the nuptials consummated. This calm was succeeded by a fearful tempest. On the second day after the marriage, a preconcerted signal was given by the allied tribes, and an indiscriminate massacre of the inhabitants of the place ensued; neither sex nor age was spared, except such as were reserved as slaves to these treacherous conquerors. During the camage, an "untoward" event occurred to one of the head chiefs of the Bay of Islands, uncle to the since cebebrated Titore, who

also took part in this butchery.

This relative, "on pillering thoughts intent," was busily engaged searching the deserted houses for plunder, when he espied a female chief, in frantic grief, near one of the huts; he instantly pounced upon her as his slave; with many threats, he commanded her to tell him where her valuables were placed; without speaking, she pointed to the hut, whose door-place, for the sake of warmth, was

made so diminutive, as just to admit a person crawling on his kneed

The chief entered, and found some mats, fish hooks, and lines, and other little native valuables, and threw them outside. Unfortunately for this hero, he had got in the house, and had now to get out in the same prostrate manner. In order to eject himself the easier, he also threw outside, with his captures, the tomahawk which had done him service during the battle. He had just protruded his head and shoulders, when the woman seized the deadly weapon, and in a few blows

#### UNPUBLISHED ANECDOTE OF DR. JOHNSON.

severed his head from the worthless body.

THE following concise but striking bon mot of Dr. Johnson was related to the writer by a fellow-student of that great man at Pembroke College, Richard Saumarez, Esq., one of the most venerable and beloved inhabitants of the island of Guernsey, who died some years since. The impression produced is rather affecting than ludicrous, as it exhibits some of the difficulties and mishaps too often attendant upon genius-

- " Pisi cum re, bilior algâ;"

and forcibly illustrates the fidelity of the distich-

"Want is the scorn of every wealthy fool, And wit in rags is turned to ridicule."

The doctor, it is well known, when at Oxford, was frequently very deficient in pecuniary means; one unlucky consequence of which was, that he sometimes found it difficult to maintain a decent external appearance. On one occasion, he appeared with both his shoes subjected to that emendation at the toes which is properly termed "cap-ping." "Why, Johnson," said some one, in a bantering tone, or, at any rate, one little creditable to his taste and feelings, "you have got your shoes capped." Capped," answered Johnson, "aye, why should they not; are they not fellows?" There was a spirit and dignity in this with the state of the state under misfortune which will not derogate from the character of this giant of literature and worth.

Burmese mode of Executing Princes.—
Spilling the blood of a member of the royal family is contrary to the laws of Ava; and the mode of execution resorted to is, tying the delinquent in a red sack, between two jars, and throwing him into the Irrawaddy; when, the jars filling, soon sink their freight.

Titore dled in September last, of consumption.

<sup>•</sup> The Fellows of Colleges are "capped" by the students; i.e. they take off their caps to them; and this gradation of respect is continued through all ranks of the University.



THE LION-TAMER OF AUGSBURG.

(Concluded from page 387.)

In No. 925 we gave a representation of the celebrated subduer of the ferocious lion at Augsburg. The above engraving presents another delineation of his remarkable powers oven the "monarch of the forest:" engraved (like its precurser) from an exceedingly rare foreign print, with an inscription in German, stating that, "In February, in the year 1760, this great lion was to be seen in Augsburg. He was managed by his keeper, who governed him by a staff and his voice; and whenever whe was desired, he would lie down upon his back, on which the man would place himself his fore-feet, open his jaws, so that his teeth no mod and tongue were shown, when the lion uttered might he more or less low. I particularly the part observed, that in the upper part of his palate, formed behind the cutting teeth, were two air-holes, assume through which he blew out his breath. When and to ther these were particular channels to the box soal with his nostrile, I could not distinguish from fine the place where I was ... But the patience of this beast, which is otherwise so terribly furious, and sanguinary, astonished me greatly; as well as the rashness of the man who governed bim, and by whom he had been taught.
In 1790, a young tiger, brought to Eng-

developed to

land in a ship, was as playful as a kitten; he often slept with the sailors, and, while lying on the floor or deck of the ship in the sun, he would allow two or three of them to lay their heads upon him as if he were a pillow.

age of one year; a small dog being allowed to live with him in his deta; and when the little fellow played with him, and bit his foot in sport, he only lifted it out of his way. Many other instances might, if necessary,

be given, proving the obedience of the most savage beasts to the will of man; and, as the great success attending the efforts of Van Amburg will doubtless be the means of exciting in others a spirit of emulation, no doubt we shall have many more similar exhibitions : indeed, it appears by the Kdinburgh papers, that the keeper of the lions at Batty's Circus Royal, bids fair to be a powerful rival to the popular brute-tamer: for, after chastising one of these mighty beasts, he almost immediately and the state of the diately laid himself down upon his back, and called the lion to him. The noble cresture immediately obeyed him like a dog, licking his hands, face, &c. It would not be doing justice to our late favou-rite "Great Performer," Madame D'Jack, to

omit mentioning how submissive she proved herself to the commends of her keeper; but as her truly wonderful exploits are doubtless fresh in the memory of most of our readers, we shall not dilate on them, but hasten to give a few more notices of the horse, in addition to the former mention; and conclude with the minor animals, birds, insects, &c.

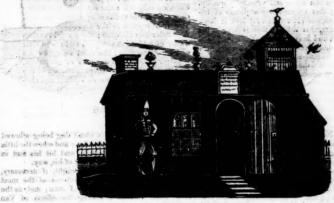
Dean Swift has stated a remarkable instance of the training of a horse at Bristol, which would stand upon his hind legs, bow to the company, and beat several marches on a drum. Similar performances were shown by our Saxon forefathers, which may be seen by refer-He was sent to the Tower of London at the ing to the drawings in the British Museum.

593

The late Messrs. Astley, and the present Mr. Ducrow, have had some truly wonderful horses. The former gentlemen so completely subdued a Barbary-horse, that he was made to bring into the riding-school a ten-table and its appendages, fetching a chair, or whatever might be wanting; and terminated his exploits by taking a kettle of boiling water from off a fire, to the wonder of every beholder. He was also taught to pick pockets of apples, pears, handkerchiefs, &c.

There is now (December 1838,) a theatrical exhibition in the Salle Saint George's, Brus-

sels, of a troop of monkies and dogs: they represent a siege of Constantina, or any other fortress: the monkies being the besieged, and the dogs the besiegers: a regular battle ensues, when the monkies take a dog prisoner, who is immediately ordered to be shot: this incenses the canine army, who storm the fortress, scale the walls, and fire the town; and the spectacle concludes with the customary scene of destruction and conflagration, a shower of Bengal lights, &c. There was the once favourite museum of tame birds, &c. shown



THE IRON HOUSE.

Turs ingenious repository was to be seen at Turnham Green, and other places in the environs of London, about the year 1750, wherein was exhibited the extraordinary sight of hawks, owls, pigeons, &c., harmoniously living together in one cage, in the sam manner as may now be seen daily in a travell-ing managerie, at the foot of either Waterloo or Sou hwark bridges

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In 1833, Signor Cappelli exhibited the - control he had over some cats, by making them beat a drum, grind knives, ring bells, draw water out of a well, roast coffee, &c. &c.; their prompt obedience to the command of

Among the many exhibitions of monkies that have been seen in London, the celebrated Spinacuta's troop may be mentioned: he made one creature show great dexterity in wheeling another monkey in a wheel-barrow on the tight rope; balancing; jumping through a hoop, enveloped in fireworks, &c., all on the tight rope.

In 1796, Mons. Lionardi also exhibited his and acted cabinet of monkeys at Astley's, on the tight and slack rope, &c. &c.

That birds are capable of being subdued

we have many extraordinary instances, as in the Chinese birds, at the Angyle-rooms; they played at cards, told the hour by a clock or watch, &c.: then there were the Java Sparrows, who were seen also in New Bood Street, London, 1821; they also told the hour on being shown a watch; vaulted on the slack-rope, fired off cannons, &c. &c.

Among insects may be mentioned the con fined or industrious fleas, so lately exhibited in England: and the celebrated performances of Mr. Wildman's bees, in 1772; they, at the word of command, left their hives, and clung to his naked arm, and also to his face and hands, while he drank a glass of wine; and on his firing a pistol, part of them would march over a table, and the other part swarm in the air, &c. Numerous similar narratives might be given; but we must conclude.

No doubt the mode adopted to subdue savage animals, is severe coercion in the first instance, animals, is severe coercion in the first instance, and afterwards plenty of food from the hand of the chastiser. Van Ambungh has his sandals, toe and heel, armed with a powerful spur; and it is said his head is rubbed with some unquent of which the beasts are very fond, and that this causes them to cares him,

and not, as many foolishly suppose they do, from affection. Beat a dog violently, and he will never forget the injury: he will ever afterwards obey and fear you, but will not look on you again as a friend, but as a tyrant;—his recognition will be that of dread, and not of regard. It is by coercion that game-keepers break-in their pointers.

As to the mode practised in subduing birds, insects, and "such like," we must leave to the ingenuity of our readers to devise.

#### LYING.

1.- LYING is a mean and a cowardly quality, and altogether unbecoming a person of ho-nour. Aristotle (Nicom. iv. 1.) lays it down for a maxim, that a brave man is clear in his discourse, and keeps close to the truth; and Plutarch calls lying the vice of a slave. 2. Lying in discourse is a disagreement between the speech and the mind of the speaker, when one thing is declared and another meant, and words are no image of thoughts. Hence it will follow, that he who mistakes a falsity for truth is no liar in reporting his judgment; and, on the other side, he that relates a matter which he believes to be false, is guilty of lying, though he speaks the truth. A lie is to be measured by the conscience of him that speaks, and not by the truth of the proposition. 3. Lying is a breach of the articles of social commerce, and an invasion upon the fundamental rights of society. 4. Lying has a ruinous tendency; it strikes a damp upon business and pleasure, and dissolves the cement of society. Like gunpowder, it is all noise and smoke, it darkens the air, disturbs the sight, and blows up as far as it reaches. Nobody can close with a liar; there is danger in the correspondence; and, more than that, we naturally hate those who make it their business to deceive us. Were lying uni-versal, it would destroy the credit of books and records, make the past ages insignificant, and almost confine our knowledge to our five senses. We must travel by the compass or by the stars, for asking the way would only misguide us.—Pearls of Great Price, edited by Mr. J. Elmes.

THE CHEMISTRY OF NATURE.

No truth should be more frequently enforced upon the devotee of physical science, than this: that the grand chemistry of nature is performed with a sublime harmony and tranquility, which scarcely make the results perceptible to our senses, save from the lapse of time. There are no violent agents and reagents in her laboratories; no torture of analysis; no compound blow-pipes, or galvanic batteries; no open war of acids and alkalies, to carry on her mysterious and eternal series of production and re-production. All is inspired with the vital principle of vegetable production.

# Fine Arts. et la sometadue

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WE have been favoured, says the Birmingham Herald, within the last few days, with an inspection, at the manufactory of Messrs. Jennens and Bettridge, of a set of panels in papier maché, intended for the decoration of the "Actson," Liverpool and Glasgow steamer; which, as works of art, have not, we believe, been surpassed by anything of the kind ever produced at this celebrated establishment. The panels are 28 in number, four of which are very large, and consist of historical subjects, some original, and others copies from the works of celebrated masters. The first represents the triumphal entry of Alexander into Babylon; the second exhibits a view of a Grecian sea-port, and the arrival of a victorious fleet; the third describes the Olympic games, and combats of gladistors, &c.; the fourth gives a representation of the Hippodrome, the temple of Victory, and chariot races. Each of these subjects is depicted by the artist with the vividness and freshness of life. The various groups of Grecian, Egyptian, and Persian figures, the richness and brilliancy of the costumes, the colossal statues, temples, and columns, in their architectural grandeur and beauty, furnish a vivid representation of the barbaric pomp and mag-nificence of bygone ages. The smaller panels are divided into three classes, devoted to the illustration of particular subjects. The first series represents full-length figures, em-blematic of Victory, Commerce, and the Arts and Sciences, surrounded with beautiful ornamental work, drawn in imitation of altorelievo; the whole surmounted with the arms of Liverpool and Glasgow. The second embraces mythological subjects, representing the triumph of Neptune, Juno, and the Graces, Action, &c.; the whole adorned with an emblematic framework. The third comprises Mosaic heads and emblems, ornamented with arabesque foliage, birds, flowers and fountains. Viewed separately, each of these paintings is an exquisite specimen of the advanced state of this department of our manufactures and the fine arts; and, as a whole, they form unquestionably one of the most unique and splendid collections of the kind ever produced.—Dec. 1838.

#### Arts and Beiences.

#### LACE MADE BY CATERPILLARS.

A most extraordinary species of manufacture has been contrived by an officer of engineers, residing at Munich. It consists of lace and veils, with open patterns in them, made entirely by caterpillars. The following is the mode of proceeding adopted:—Having made a paste of the leaves of the plant on which the species of caterpillar he employs feeds, he

spreads it thinly over a stone, or other flat substance, of the required size. He then, with a camel-hair pencil, dipped in olive-oil, draws the pattern he wishes the insects to leave open. This stone is then placed in an inclined position, and a considerable number of the caterpillars are placed at the bottom. A peculiar species is chosen, which spins a strong web; and the animals commence at the bottom, eating and spinning their way up to the top, carefully avoiding every part touched by the oil, but devouring every other part of the paste. The extreme lightness of these veils, combined with some strength, is truly surprising. One of them measuring 26½ by 17 inches, weighed only a grain and a half, a degree of lightness which will appear more strongly by contrast with other fabrics. One square yard of the substance of which these veils are made weighs 4½ grains, whilst one square yard of silk gauze weighs 137 grains, and one square yard of the finest net weighs 262½ grains.—From a Correspondent of the Times, Dec. 1838.

# Manners and Customs.

PECULIAR OBSERVANCES OF THE MALAGASY,
AFTER THE BIRTH OF AN INFANT.\*

On this interesting occasion, the relatives and friends of the mother visit her, and offer their congratulations. The infant also receives salutations, in form resembling the following :-" Saluted be the offspring given of God !may the child live long!—may the child be favoured so as to possess wealth!" Presents are also made to the attendants in the household, and sometimes a bullock is killed on the occasion, and distributed among the members of the family. Presents of poultry, fuel, money, &c., are at times also sent by friends to the mother. A piece of meat is usually cut into thin slices, and suspended at some distance from the floor by a cord attached to the ceiling, or roof of the house. This is called the Kitoza, and is intended for the mother. A fire is kept in the room, day and night, frequently for a week after the birth of the child. At the expiration of that period, the infant, arrayed in the best clothing that can be obtained, is carried out of the house by some person whose parents are both still living, and then taken back to the mother. In being carried out and in, the child must be twice carefully lifted over the fire, which is placed near the door. Should the infant be a boy, the axe, large knife, and spear, generally used in the family, must be taken out at the same time, with any implements of building that may be in the house; silver chains, of native manufacture, are also given

as presents, or used in these ceremonies, for which no particular reason is assigned. The implements are perhaps used chiefly as emblems of the occupations in which it is expected the infant will engage when it arrives at maturer years; and the whole may be regarded as expressing the hopes cherished of his activity, wealth, and enjoyments. One of the first acts of the father, or a near relative, is to report the birth of the child to the native divines or astrologers, who are required to work the sikidy for the purpose of ascertaining and declaring its destiny; and when the des tiny is declared to be favourable, the child is nurtured with that tenderness and affection which nature inspires, and the warmest gra-tulations are tendered by the friends of the parents. The proportion of the sexes appears to be equal at birth, though, in consequence of the destructive ravages of war, it is supposed by the missionaries, that in some of the provinces there are, among the free portion of the inhabitants, five, and in others three, women to one man. The adult slave population presents a more equal number of both sexes. The children, particularly those of the Hovas, are said to be exceedingly fair at their birth, and to assume but very gradually the dark or olive tinge of those in riper years. At the expiration of the second or third month from the birth of a first child, on a day declared to be good (lucky) by the sikidy, a peculiar kind of ceremony takes place, called 'scrambling.' The friends and relatives of the child assemble; a portion of the fat taken from the hump on the back of an ox is minced in a rice-pan, cooked, and mixed up with a quantity of rice, milk, honey, and a sort of grass called voampamoa; a lock of the infant's hair is also cast into the above mélange; and the whole being thoroughly well mixed in a rice-pan, which is held by the youngest female of the family, a general rush is made towards the pan, and a scramble for its contents takes place, especially by the women, as it is supposed that those who are fortunate enough to obtain a portion may con-fidently cherish the hope of becoming mothers. Bananas, lemons, and sugarcane, are also scrambled for, under the belief that a si milar result may be anticipated. The cere mony of scrambling, however, only takes place with a first-born child. The head of the mo ther is decorated during the ceremonial with silver chains; while the father carries the infant, if a boy, and some ripe bananas, on his back. The rice-pan used on the occasion becomes in their estimation sacred by the service, and must not be taken out of the house during three subsequent days, otherwise the virtue of those observances is supposed to be

many each down to

<sup>•</sup> Ellis's History of Madagasear, (Fisher and Co. London.)

## MATHEWS'S FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE.

"ABOUT this very period I made 'my first appearance in public' at my father's chapel at Whetstone, where he preached every Sunday.

Brother Oodard " (Woodward,) the butcher, who was my father's clerk, sug-gested that a "hopposition to the horgan of the church," though in a minor way, might be attractive. He had a son "as fiddled," and Wilson the Cobbler was reckoned a capital hand at the bassoon; " and if Master Charles would but jine 'em and play the flute," what an effective orchestra might be formed without trouble or expense! The scheme was immediately carried into execution; we had several "pratizings," as Woodward called them, which made no little noise in the village, and our first public performance being announced by whisperings into the ears of the pious only (as we hoped,) the meeting was crowded to suffocation-literally " overflowed," as the playbills have it.

Pope's " Vital spark of heavenly flame," was the piece selected for our début ; and 1 can as perfectly recollect as I can any event within one week of the time of my penning this, the arrangement I made for a "good part," as the actors would say: I mean, the care and caution I used to make the flute the "first fiddle;"—fauto prime was not enough for my inordinate ambition. Now, as this was a "four-part-song," as our cho-risters called it, we expressly forbade the rest of the congregation from joining in until the whole had been sung through once; and then they were to sing chorus only. had been a principal singer in this really beautiful piece of music before we aspired to instrumental accompaniment; but here came the puzzle—I had been primo tenore, and "Brother Wizzun" had a "barrowand "Brother Wizzu" had a "barrow-tone" voice which he made hass for Sundays, I presume, by the old-established mode of getting his feet well wet on Saturday evening. The interesting elder butcher had a countertener part. Our first notion was to accompany ourselves; but we forgot in the enthuplay the wind instruments could not conveniently play and sing at the same time. The junior slaughterer *Oodard*, had here an advantage. Many a blind minstrel had given him a hint that to sing and fiddle together was practicable; but we did not produce sweet sounds by force of elbow, but by dint of lungs, and I was emulous to exhibit my twofold accomplishments-I considered my self as the principal performer, and I would be heard. If I was to be merely an accompanyist, who was to sing my old part? At

Prom " Memoirs of Charles Mathews," by Mrs. Mathews. (Bentley.)

last it was agreed that the fame we had already acquired by our vocal performances was not to be compromised, and an ingenious arrangement was made to satisfy all parties. There were fugue passages, symphonies, &c.; and the cobler and myself, with an acquired and the cobler and myself, with an acquired and the cobler and myself, with an enthusiasm never to be sufficiently commended, so contrived that we made some of the bumpkins believe that we sang and played at one and the same time I wish it were within the power of my pen to give effect to this scene; it requires the aid of practical and vocal elucidation to convey it with full force."

#### A SETTLER'S LETTER.

THE Emigration Committee have thought it right to give publicity to the following very intelligent letter, lately written by a settler to his mother, on account of the valuable statistical information it contains :-

"Catchum's Shallow on the little Red River Arkensaw Stait April 1838.

"My dere Muther,-Yer mustent wunder if you havnt herd of me for sume time, but grate grefe is dumb as Shaxpire sais, and I was advised to hop my twig and leaf old ingland, witch indede I was verry sorrorful, but now I am thanks gudnes saf, and in amerrykey. I ardly no ware miself, but the hed of this will tel my tail. I ham a squatter in the far wurst, about & a-mile this side sundown, an if I ad gon mutch father I shud av found nuthin but sen, an no nite at all. Yu know how the hummegrating Agent tolde me that if peopel cudnt liv in Sent Gileses amerrykey was capitle to dy in; Sent Glieses amerrykey was capitle to dy in; besides ses he if youre not verry ners you can ade yure mother in distres, so i went aborde a ship wat was going to Noo Orlines. I ve herd peepel tawk about rodes at C but the rodes on the attalantick is the very ruffest i evir rode on and it was very long an very cold an we had nothin 2 heat hardly, but we founde a ded rat in a warter-cask witch the flavur was grately increased thereby. at last we cam to the arbur at the citty of Noo Orlines witch is all under the bottum of the top of the rivver and we ad a ankering to go a-shore. i ad no idear as the rivers was so hi in this contry, but as the assent is so verry esy i didnt fele it at al. The noo orlines peepel is odd fishis and not at all common plaice; wen all the peepel in the streets is musterd it is a pepper an sault poppulashun, thare is blak wites an wite blaks an a sort of mixt peepel caled quadrunts because they are of fore colers blak, an wite, an wite blak, and blak wites. Has the rivver is so verry hi it is always hi water, an the munnifold advan-tiges of the citty dipends on the gudnes of its banks. there is loks in em to let the water out and keys to kepe it in. munney ere is verry common and is cald sentse, and evvery

thing is cheep in Noo Orlines 5 dollers bills bein only worth 2 dollers. we went up the rivver in a large bote like a noise ark only the current acount was more promiscus. aginst us. it dont turn and turn agen like at putny bridg, and as it runs alwys won way i wunder it dont run away altogethir. Thire is no towns nor tailer shops nor pallisses as I expectorated there wood be. the wood was all guite wilde not a bit of tame no ware nor no sines of the bessedniss of civilazashun as jales and jin shops nor no kitching gardins nor fields nor ouses nor lanes nor alleys nor gates nothin but alleygators. after a grate dale of settlin i settled to settle as abuv ware yu will rite to me. These staits is caled the united staits because theire mails and femails all united, there's six of them minimin staits. 2 Carrolinas, Miss Sourry, Missis Sippy, Louesa Anna, an Vargina, all the rest is mails. i have sene no cannibels an verry few ingins besides steam ingins they're quite unhedducated and dont emply no tailers.

I dont like fammin mutch but praps I shal
wen i get used to it, tho its very ilconvenient at forst. i am obliged to wurk very ard and if have to chop my wood much longer I have

the lame we had

determined to cut my stick.
"Dere muther, i think i shuld be more cumfurtable if i had a few trifels witch you could bye me, if yew wud onley sel sumthing be sure to owe it you—namly sum needils and thred, and some odd buttens, but thems of little use without you send me sum shirts, on, when those tumbles off thats on when you sends em, and sum brads, and some hammers to drive em with, and a spade an a pikax, an a saw, and sum fish hooks, and gunpowdr, an sum shot, witch they wil be of the gratest conveniency, if yu can send me a gun. Likewis som stockins, an shues, and other hardwears, only its no use to send me any bank nots, for my nerest naybours is sum ingin wagwams abuve 70 miles of, an i cudnt get change there, so dont forgit some led, and some built moldes, for some black fellers has bin fishin close by, jist within 10 miles an I wants to have a pop at em with luv to all yore dutiful son. SAM STROLLER mimes -Comic Almanack.

The Baturalist.

ved seponthology, Possils, &c., or NEW ZEALAND. it- an wife blaks,

ed viray of a New Zealand Dogs.

I wave been induced to lay some stress on these quadrupeds, as every traveller will and them to be the greatest pest in the country. These brutes are met with in the enviable situation, when young, of sharing

the bed and board of most of the unmarringeable young ladies, serving to make up a coterie; and are equally petted as that happy race of Bologna extraction (famous for sausages and lap-dogs), who domicile in the neighbourhood of certain unmentionable squares, in the antipodes of this country. These animals were a disgrace to the kainga, or village, of which they formed part and parcel; being without the slightest pretensions to obesity, had the entire thirty-four, which I counted of them, been reduced by a culinary process, they could not have rendered an ounce of unctuous matter.

Mocking Bird.

The tui, or mocking-bird, is best known to the stranger in the country. The natives vend these birds, in wicker cages, to their transient visitors; it is called tui, from the resemblance of its note to that sound. in size similar to a thrush, with a plumage of jetty black; under its throat are pendant two tufts of pure white feathers; the flesh is delicate, and may be regarded as a luxury; its food is a portion of insects and worms; it imitates various sounds that arrest its attention.

A New Zealand River.

A New Zealand river, of thirty miles in a direct course, meanders often in a serpentine direction, full three times that length. The salt-water rivers are joined, at their estuaries, by limpid fresh-water creeks, many of them pursuing their route; joined by innumerable waterruns in their course, for full forty miles of country. Thus amalgamating, the gentle creek is soon lost within the wide foaming river, that disembogues itself into the sea. I am induced to refer to the pretty conceit of an Atlantic poet, while dwelling on the beauties of his own beloved rivers:—

"The sire of coesa takes

A sylvan mailen to his arme,

In godd-so of the crystal lakes

In all her native charms;

She comes, attended by a sparkling train,

The Nalads of the west her nupitals graces

She meet the sceptered Pather of the main

And in his boson hides her virgin face."

All the large rivers of the country are of salt-water, but the entire country is delightfully irrigated with streams, from the mountains, and meandering through the undulating lands.

" Kumera," or indigenous sweet Potato.

The kumera (Convolvulus battata), or indigenous sweet potato, is accounted the most invaluable food possessed by the New Zealander. This is the sole edible that has been handed down by tradition, as having been coeval in the country with the remotest of its aborigines. It is supposed to have been brought from Touwahai, or distant regions, by the earliest native colonists.

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There is a much larger variety of this esculent, called kai pakeha, or white man's food. The latter grows to the size of a large yam, but infinitely more valuable, possessing the rich flavour of the custard apple.

## New Zealand Birds.

The birds of New Zealand are numerous, but generally of small size. The musical voices of a few of them equal, in delicacy of tone, the English songsters of the woods; many of these feathered tribes appear almost congenerous with each other. The concerts given every morning at daybreak, and ceasing at sunrise, have been described.

#### Fossils.

Fossils are found in those islands very abundant. The island of E'Ainomáwi con-fains a large quantity of these natural curiosities. On the shores, fungitæ, or fossil corals, are often met with; and various dendrites, or arborisations, in fossil substances. Petrifactions of the bones of large birds, supposed to be wholly extinct, have often been presented to me by the na-tives, who invariably expressed much plea-sure in beholding a European attracted by substances that belonged to their country. On any subjects connected with the natural history of the land, the people felt a pleasure in communicating information; but it was rendered almost nugatory from being clothed with the most abstruse and ridiculous legends.

Many of these petrifactions had been the ossified parts of birds, that are at present (as far as is known) extinct in these islands, whose probable tameness, or want of volitary powers, caused them to be early extirpated by a people, driven by both hunger and superstition (either reason is quite sufficient in its way) to rid themselves of their pre-

A few petrified zoophites came in my way, but in small portions. The natives are aware of the existence of all these natural phenomena; they require only their memories shaken on the subject, and will instantly commence the recital of a number of superstitions bearing on the subject, in which some truth may be elicited, out of a mass of absurd fiction.

The mountain of Ikorangi comes in for a large share of applause in these tales. Ostracites are found in various parts of the country-inland and on the coast-in deep swamps and elevated mountains-with the soil.

" Kiwikiwi," or Apteryx Australis.

The kiwikiwi, or Apteryx Australis, placed under the head of Struthionidæ, by Mr. Gould, who has admirably figured the male and female, in his splendid work on Australian birds, is the most curious specisurface of some stagnant water, each in men of ornithology in New Zealand. It is close proximity to a yellowish substance,

covered with a hairy feather, similar to the clothing of the cassowary; and, like the Rhea genus, is destitute of the accessary plume. Its besk is similar to that of the curlew, of a yellowish horn colour, its buse possessing numerous long hairs. This shape is of especial service to the bird for thrusting into the earth for worms, on which it feeds. According to Mr. Gould, "the face and throat is greyish brown; the remainder of the plumage, consisting of long lanceo-late hair, like feathers, of a deep brown colour; on the lower part of the breast and belly, the feathers are lighter than those that are more exposed, and become of a grey tint. Length of the bird, thirty inches; bill, six and a half; tarsi three." The legs of this bird are short, but possessing much force; they run exceedingly fast; the flesh is worthless and tough.

The usual method of entrapping the kiwikiwi is, by parties who sojourn for the night in unfrequented forests, near swampy grounds, where these birds delight to congregate; a large fire is kindled, and a crepitating noise is made, by breaking small dried sticks or twigs, which, from the similarity to the unmusical voice of these birds, induce them to leave their nests, which are formed in the holes of trees, or under deep, imbricated roots. Attracted by the fire, they make towards it; the sudden glare confusing them, renders them of easy capture.

Dogs have been often sent in pursuit of this bird, by the aid of large fires, but the animals have mostly fared but ill, from the powerful talons of the bird; they are found in the forests throughout the northern island. That a species of the emu, or a bird of the genus Struthio, formerly existed in the latter island, I feel well assured, as several large fossil ossifications were shown to me when I was residing in the vicinity of the East Cape, said to have been found at the base of the inland mountain of Ikorangi. tives added that, in times long past, they received the tradition, that very large birds had existed, but the scarcity of animal food, as well as the easy method of entrapping them, had caused their extermination.

The present kiwikiwi, so named from the note of its voice, is about the size of a large duck, and burrows in the ground; the powerful spur on its leg assisting the bird in this operation .- Polack's New Zealand.

## THE MUSQUITO.

THE musquito (remarks a recent writer) has three stages of existence, in the first and second of which it is a water insect, and in the third, the well-known winged one. Several musquitos being observed on the surface of some stagnant water, each in were viewed through a microscope, and proved to be a collection of eggs, which the musquitos were depositing. Each collection, though not consisting of less than one hundred eggs, did not exceed three-twentieths of an inch in length, and one-twentieth in breadth. The eggs were arranged in lines, standing on end, and were each one fortieth of an inch long. A few of these collections of ova being put, with some of the water on which they floated, into a tumbler, and placed under a glass shade, in two days and a half the water was found to swarm with animalcules, the shells of the ova still adhering as when first observed. On examining one of them minutely, the larger or under end was found to have opened like a lid, to allow the insect to escape into the water. The body of the newly-hatched insect was semi-transparent. In the thorax, the heart was seen, furnished with four pro-In the thorax, jections; from this organ two blood-vessels proceeded down the centre of the body to the end of the tail, which was always to be seen just above the surface of the water, the animalcule having its head downwards. Between the heart and the elongated fail an active circulation was to be observed, indicating, probably, that the latter constituted the lungs or gills, it being always above the surface of the water. Its motion was quick, and it always went tail foremost; and when in search of food, it threw out a couple of brush-like tentacula, which moved circularly, and created a vortex, by which the food was attracted within the reach of the depredator. Their food appeared to be principally decomposing vegetable matter; but they occasionally devoured their own kind, as well as their recently-quitted shells. At the termination of twenty-one days, during which the water was thrice changed. they had attained to three or four twentieths of an inch in diameter. On attaining this age, they underwent a second metamor-phosis. The shape was materially altered; phosis. The snape was material, but the greatest change was that in regard to the seat of the gills, which were then situated in the thorax, their former site (the tail) being absorbed; and the channel of communication between them and the air consisted in two small tubes attached to the upper part of the thorax. In this stage of existence the insects were much less active than in their former state; they did not require food, and had no mouth, resembling in this respect the chrysalis of the butterfly; they seldom left the surface, and when they did so, speedily returned to it. The insects remained in this stage about forty-eight hours, towards the termination of which the legs and proboscis of the winged musquito could be distinctly seen through the thin membrane that surrounded it. This in due course burst, when the musquite drew itself out, stood on the surface of the water a few

minutes, to dry and expend its wings, and then flew to a dry situation. Were the musquito, in either of the two first stages, to be taken out of the water, it would speedily die; and it may be as quickly killed by emersing it in that fluid after becoming the winged insect.

W. G. C.

## The Gatherer.

Smoking and Snuff.—Tobacco belongs to the class of drugs called narcotics, and is possessed of many of their most noxious quali ties. The excessive use of tobacco, in whatever shape it is taken, heats the blood, hurts digestion, wastes the fluids, and relaxes the nerves. Smoking is particularly injurious to lean, hectic, and hypochondriacal persons: it creates an unnatural thirst, leading to the use of spirituous liquors; it increases indolence, and confirms the lazy in the habits they have acquired; above all, it is pernicious to the young, laying the foundation of future misery. I am, therefore, glad to see that our young men have very generally abandoned the ob-noxious and unbecoming custom, lately so prevalent, of smoking in the street. A patient of mine, a young officer of dragoons, who was quite an amateur smoker, and used to boast of the number of cigars he could smoke in a day, produced ptyalism by his folly; and, had he not abandoned the practice, he would in all probability have lived but a very short time. The use of tobacco, in the form of snuff, is still more objectionable than smok-ing. On account of its narcotic quality, snuff is improper in cases of apoplexy. lethargy, deafness, and other diseases of the head. The use of snuff is likewise extremely dangerous to the consumptive, to thou flicted with internal ulcers, or who are subject to spitting of blood. Snuff-taking is an uncleanly habit-it vitiates the organs of smell; taints the breath; ultimately weakens th faculty of sight, by withdrawing the humours from the eyes; impairs the sense of hearing; renders breathing difficult; depraves the apos petite; and, if taken too copiously, gets into and affects the stomach, injuring in a high degree the organs of digestion .- Curtis on Health.

Stephen Perlin's Description of England.

—The following singular passage is extracted from a very rare work with the above title, which was printed in 1558. It was dedicated to the Duchess of Berry. After giving some account of the rebellion in Queen Mary's reign, our author says, "The Milor Nortumbellant, the Duke of Suphor, and the Milor Arundelle, were taken prisoners. They were condemned to the castle of the Tower, under an escort of 800 men. The mob called Milor Nortumbellant vile traitor, and he furiously eyed them with looks of resentment. Two

days afterwards he was taken to Ousemestre (Westminster) to his trial, which did not last more than 15 days at most, and he, the Duke of Suphor, and Milor Arundelle, were con-demned to be beheaded before the castle of the Tower; and they had the pain of seeing each other under the hands of a hangman. each other under the hands of a hangman. This hangman was lame of a leg, and he wore a white apon like a butcher. This great lord made great lamentations, and prayed tenderly. After the execution, little children gathered up the blood which had fatten through the sitts in the scaffold. The Queen not long after proclaimed through all langland, against eating flesh on Fridays and Saturdays, on pain of being hanged and strangled."

St. Agnes' Eve was formerly a period of great importance with spinsters in quest of husbands, and were destricted of however, forchand whom they were to marry. Ben Josson alludes to the usage—

On sweet Mt. Agues' night.
Please you with the promised sight,
Some of husbands, some of lovers,
Which an empty dream discovers."

Of such maids it was required that they should not eat on this day; and those who conformed to this rule called it fasting St. Agnes' fast. One of the olden methods Agnes' tast. One of the olden methods apaleen of by Aubrey to attain the wished-for gratification was as follows:—Upon Bt. Agnes' night you take a row of pins, and pull out every one, one after another, taying a paternoster, sticking a pin in your sleeve, and you will dream of him, or her, you shall marry! In Buckinghamshire, to this day, the methods is not fast has taken and possible properties in methods. the practice is, not to fast, but at night, o serving strict silence, to eat a handful of salt, go up stairs backwards, undress backwards, and lie down in bed backwards, when sucful dreams are sure to be the result.

Newspapers.—Plutarch notes that the country people were very busy in inquiring into their neighbours affairs. The inhabitants of cities thronged the court and other public places, as the exchange and quays, to hear the news. The old Gauls were very great newsmanners; so much so, says Ceear, that they even stopped fravellers on this account, who decrived them, and thus brought error into their councils. Juvenal notices the meaning of the Roman waisant for delivered. error into their councils. Juvenal notices the loseness of the Roman wonen for deluges, exchanges, &c., as now for wonders and private matters. Merchants and purveyors of corn, as now stock jobbers, used to invent this news for interested purpesses. It was not uncommon to put the beaver of bad news to death. In the middle ages, pilgrims and returns attending fairs were grand sources of conveying leadingence. Blackmathe' shops, have large, &c., were other resorts for his purpose, in common with the milt and market. Great families used to pay persons in London for letters of news. In London,

as St. Panl's church was the great place of advertising, so it was also for news. In "Nichola" Progresses," a gentleman says "that his lackey had not walked twenty paces in Pawles before he heard that sundry triends of his master had taken leave at court, and were all shipt away." Servants were sent there on purpose to fetch news. Of the introduction of newspapers by the Gazetta of Venice everybody has read. Herbert calls that it start of the calls t the "Siege of Rhodes," by Caxton, the "ancientest Gazette in our language;" but, to prevent the mischief of false alarms, through the Spanish Armada, the first newspaper, styled the English Mercury, then, as afterwards, in the shape of a pamphlet, appeared in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.—

The Suspension Bridge at Freyburg, the longuet in the world, was completed and thrown open in 1834. The auginess sho constructed it is M. Chaley, of Lyons. Its dimensions, compared with those of the Menni bridge, are as follows :--

Elevation Nensi . 590 130 26
It is supported on four cables of iron wire, each containing 1056 wires, the united strength of which is capable of supporting three times the weight which the bridge will ever be likely to hear, or three times the weight of two rows of wagons, extending entirely across it. The cables enter the ground on each side obliquely for a considerable distance, and are then carried down vertical shafts cut in the rock, and filled with masoury, through which they pass, being attached at the extremity to enormous blocks masonry, through which they pass, being attached at the extremity to enormous blocks of stone. The materials of which it is composed are almost exclusively Swine; the iron came from Berne, the limestone maeoury from the quarries of the Jurs, the woodwork from the forest of Freyburg; the workmen were, with the exception of one man, natives who had never seen such a bridge before. It was completed in three years, at an expense of about 600,000 fr., (#25,000 swelling.)—Hand-book for Switzerland.

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